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The editor recently wrote a piece for PRESS TV about the CIA's use of medical intelligence or MEDINT to conduct covert medical assassinations of foreign leaders. [The story has received wide pickup in the Turkish press.](#) Based on documents from the CIA archives, the cancer that forced 65-year old Japanese Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda to resign from office in November 1964 to be replaced by the CIA's favorite, Eisaku Sato, puts Ikeda's death in the suspicious category.

According to a [November 9, 1967, CIA Weekly Review Special Report, titled "Prime Minister Sato's Position in a Renascent Japan,"](#) Sato had unsuccessfully attempted to unseat Ikeda earlier in 1964 as chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) before Ikeda suddenly developed cancer and was forced to resign. The report also states that Sato wanted to maintain a close relationship with the United States while building up Japan's "economic and political role in Asia."

CIA archives also contain a 1978 report from Jakarta that states Ratna Sari Dewi, the widow of Indonesia's President Sukarno, ousted by the CIA in 1965 and put under house arrest until his own suspicious death in an Indonesian military hospital in 1970, accused Sato, along with the CIA, of involvement in the 1965 coup that overthrew her husband.

Sato was also a strong backer of the U.S. military effort in Vietnam and the U.S.-supported Nationalist Chinese regime on Taiwan. WMR previously reported that it was Japanese leaders like Sato and his LDP cohorts who received large sums of slush funds from the CIA, courtesy of "escrow accounts" at the Bank of Hawaii in Honolulu that were controlled by Madelyn Dunham, President Obama's grandmother.

Some of the CIA slush money was used by LDP politicians like Sato to recruit informers for the CIA within the LDP and other political parties, particularly the Japanese Socialist Party, as well as the yakuza, the Japanese organized crime syndicate.

A number of LDP political leaders were talent spotted by the CIA in the 1950s and early 60s and they later became government ministers and lower level government functionaries, still maintaining their contacts with the large CIA station in Tokyo. However, other leaders, including Okinori Kaya, were recruited from the ranks of Japanese war criminals after World War II. Kaya was Japanese Finance Minister in the wartime Japanese government and was later deemed Class A war criminal by the Allied powers after the war. Rehabilitated and pardoned in the mid-1950s, thanks to the CIA, Kaya became a leading LDP insider where he served on the party's internal security committee. Kaya was also a major adviser to Sato and was tasked to ensure continued and unfettered U.S. access to the military bases on Okinawa. The CIA funded the Okinawa wing of the LDP.

It was during the Sato administration that Japan reversed its nuclear policy and not only permitted the United States to station nuclear weapons on Japanese soil and in Japanese waters but began to secretly, with the knowledge and assistance of the CIA, to develop Japanese nuclear weapons. The disaster at the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Daiichi nuclear plant in Fukushima would not have been as deadly had it not been for the presence of plutonium MOX fuel rods, necessary for the Japan's secret program of quick manufacturing and deployment of nuclear weapons. Sato, the grandfather of Japan's secret nuclear weapons program, received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1974.

Ikeda's sudden onset of cancer and Sato's support from the CIA ushered forth major changes in Japan's foreign and defense policies, changes that were all to the advantage of the CIA.

The Dark side of Medical Intelligence gathering

Nov. 27, 2012, PressTV

Intelligence agencies routinely gather medical intelligence on the world's political leaders. Officially, this information is

used to ascertain the viability for continuation in office for leaders. However, there is a dark side to such intelligence collection.

Medical intelligence also contains data on the status of a leader's immune system and his or her susceptibility to a number of diseases or other external health threat. Such information can be useful in devising "natural" assassination weapons, such as cancer, radiation poisoning, and food poisoning.

The collection of information on medical factors is known as "medical intelligence." MEDINT, as it is also known, is defined by the US Department of Defense as "That category of intelligence resulting from collection, evaluation, analysis, and interpretation of foreign medical, bio-scientific, and environmental information that is of interest to strategic planning and to military medical planning and operations for the conservation of the fighting strength of friendly forces and the formation of assessments of foreign medical capabilities in both military and civilian sectors."

Intelligence agencies take MEDINT one step further. The Central Intelligence Agency and Israel's Mossad, in particular, use MEDINT to analyze the medical conditions of foreign leaders, as well as their treatment regimen and schedules, to determine the best methods for administering toxic dose of medicines, pathogens, or other deadly agents to cause death, in other words, medical assassination.

Eight years after his death, the body of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat is to be exhumed. After researchers at a Swiss institute discovered high levels of radioactive polonium on Arafat's clothes and other personal effects and a French court ordered an inquiry into Arafat's death, an autopsy will be conducted on Arafat's body. Arafat fell seriously ill while being held as a virtual hostage by the Israelis at his Ramallah, Palestine headquarters. Arafat was flown to hospital in Paris and died a month later in November 2004. Mossad is believed by many to have carried out a "medical assassination" of Arafat.

At the same time that Arafat's exhumation and autopsy was scheduled, Turkish investigators discovered high levels of DDT, strychnine, and polonium in the body of Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

Ozal died suddenly from a heart attack in 1993 but the new information from a recent autopsy suggests he may have been assassinated through poisoning. Ozal's widow said her late husband died after drinking a glass of lemonade. Ozal made enemies of the Turkish military and its secret "deep state" network known as "Ergenekon." Ozal was also an opponent of George H. W. Bush's "Desert Storm" invasion of Iraq and he made enemies inside the CIA as well as in Mossad.

Two other leaders, known for their nationalist policies, may have also fell victim to CIA medical assassins. Indonesian President Ahmed Sukarno, confined to house arrest after his overthrow in 1965 in a CIA coup, died in 1970. There is evidence that the CIA may have altered Sukarno's kidney medication. Sukarno was confined to Bogor Palace and his level of medical treatment was dictated by the Suharto regime and their CIA interlocutors. After falling seriously ill, Sukarno died in the Jakarta Army Hospital.

After Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser's sudden death from what was believed to be a heart attack in 1970, there were reports that he may have been poisoned. An aide to Nasser, who was close to Vice President Anwar Sadat, reportedly hid from forensic examiners nail clippings and hair samples taken from the body of Nasser for later testing. Upon becoming Egyptian president, Sadat reversed many of Nasser's policies, including ejecting Soviet military advisers, opening relations with Israel, and steering Egypt into the Western camp.

In 1961, the CIA station in Leopoldville, Congo tried to poison nationalist Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba. Eventually, Lumumba was killed by a Belgian mercenary firing squad in the employment of the CIA. There were also many attempts by the CIA to poison Cuban President Fidel Castro. In 1976, the former leftist president of Brazil, Joao Goulart, died from a sudden heart attack in exile in Uruguay. A former Uruguayan intelligence agent later revealed that Goulart's heart medication pills were altered in order to have a "contrary effect." The Goulart family's cook in Uruguay was later discovered to be a Brazilian intelligence agent with links to the CIA. Goulart was ousted in a 1964 CIA-led coup.

After cases of cancer began to affect several Latin American progressive leaders, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, himself battling cancer, suggested the CIA had dusted off its old medical assassination program. The day following Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner's announcement that she was being treated for thyroid cancer, Chavez stated, "Would it be so strange that they've [the Americans] invented the technology to spread cancer and we won't know about it for 50 years?" Cancer also plagued Paraguay's President Fernando Lugo (later ousted in a CIA-backed coup), former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, and Brazilian incumbent President Dilma Rousseff.

To Bolivian President Evo Morales and Ecuadorian leader Rafael Correa, Chavez had a dire warning, "Evo, take care of

yourself. Correa, be careful. We just don't know.” After the revelations about the deaths of Arafat and Ozal, Chavez has every right to be concerned.

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